

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 DRC-01

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R 251600Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4449

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, GT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: RECENT DEVELOPMENT-ANZUETO PUBLICIZES VISIT
OF US CIVAIR TEAM; GOES COUNTERS RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON TACA

REF: GUATEMALA 5234 AND PREVIOUS

1. VARIOUS DEVELOPMENTS IN PAST SEVERAL DAYS HAVE RAISED AVIATECA'S VARIOUS CONFRONTATIONS AND PROBLEMS TO LEVEL OF PUBLIC ISSUE. FIRST, PRESS HAS PUBLICIZED GOES ACTION COUNTER GOG RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON SALVADORAN AIRLINE TACA. AT TIME GOG REMOVED PAN AM'S FIFTH FREEDOM RIGHTS ON GUATEMALA-SAN SALVADOR ROUTE IT ALSO REMOVED, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, TACA'S FIFTH FREEDOM RIGHTS ON GUATEMALA-MEXICO AND GUATEMALA-NEW ORLEANS ROUTES. TO COUNTER THIS ACTION, GOES, APPARENTLY ABOUT A WEEK AGO, LIMITED AVIATECA TO THREE FLIGHTS A WEEK TO SAN SALVADOR. AFTER VARIOUS GOG OFFICIALS INITIALLY DENIED THAT SUCH COUNTER RESTRICTIONS HAD OCCURRED, MINCOMMUNICATIONS ANZUETO ADMITTED FACT AND ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD BE MEETING OCT. 1 WITH GOES MINPUBLIC WORKS DISCUSS PROBLEM. SOME PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT PENDING THAT MEETING GOG AND GOES RESTRICTIONS HAVE BEEN HELD IN ABEYANCE, ALTHOUGH THIS

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IS NOT CERTAIN.

2. ANZUETO ON SEPT. 24 ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT "TOWARD THE END OF THIS MONTH" (SEPT.) A "PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS" MISSION WOULD VISIT GUATEMALA TO DISCUSS "WITH GOG" VARIOUS RESTRICTIONS GOG HAS PLACED ON PAN AM. ANZUETO ALSO DECLARED THAT BECAUSE OF SUCH RESTRICTIONS "PRESSURE HAS BEEN PLACED (ON GUATEMALA) FROM THE UNITED STATES". HE EXPLAINED THAT THE RESTRICTIONS HAD BEEN PLACED BECAUSE PAN AM WAS "CARRYING MANY PASSENGERS AND THEREBY DAMAGING AVIATECA." AS IF PRESENTING THE POSITION GOG WILL TAKE IN FORTHCOMING TALKS, ANZUETO DECLARED THAT "THE OPERATION OF NEW COMPANIES AND ADDITIONAL ROUTES COULD BE AUTHORIZED, EXCEPT FOR PAN AM, SINCE PAN AM HAS TRIED TO PREJUDICE THE NATIONAL INTERESTS. THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GUATEMALA WILL BE MAINTAINED, COST WHAT IT MAY."

3. IN OPPOSITION TO ANZUETO'S POLICY, THE GUATEMALAN TOURISM ASSOCIATION HAS PUBLICLY CALLED FOR AN "OPEN SKIES" POLICY. ANOTHER POSSIBLY UNRELATED DEVELOPMENT DURING PAST WEEK HAS BEEN ATTACKED BY GROUP OF AVIATECA EMPLOYEES AGAINST AVIATECA DIRECTOR SENN. THEY HAVE CALLED FOR HIS DISMISSAL ON GROUNDS HE IS MISMANAGING THE AIRLINE AND THAT HIS PLANS WILL COST THEM THEIR JOBS. GOG HAS PUBLICLY DECLARED ITS SUPPORT OF SENN.

4. COMMENT: ANZUETO AT THE MOMENT THUS HAS HIS HANDS FULL (IN ADDITION TO AVIATION PROBLEMS HE HAS BEEN ATTACKED IN CONGRESS FOR COST OVERRUNS ON XAYA PIXCAYA WATERWORKS PROJECTS). AS IS EVIDENT, HOWEVER, HE IS FIGHTING BACK.

DECONTROL AFTER 9/25/76

ANDREWS

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